WORKERS of the WORLD UNITE

THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALIST

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THE CRY OF TOIL.
By Rudyard Kipling.

We have fed you all for a thousand years,
And you hail us still unfed,
Though there's never a dollar of all your wealth
But marks the workers' dead.
We have yielded our best to give you rest,
And you lie on a crimson wool;
For, if blood be the price of all your wealth,
Good God! we ha' paid it in full.

There's never a mine blown skyward now
But we've buried alive for you;
There's never a wreck drifts shoreward now
But we are its ghastly crew,
Go reckon our dead by the forges red,
And the factories where we spin;
If blood be the price of your accursed wealth,
Good God! we ha' paid it in full.

We have fed you all for a thousand years,
For that was our doom, you know.
From the days when you chained us in your fields,
To the strike of a week ago.
You ha' eaten our lives and our babes and wives,
And were told it's your legal share,
But if blood be the price of your lawful wealth,
Good God! we ha' bought it fair.

TO ITALY. "Come in, the blood's fine."
—Minor, in New York World.

The Passing Show.

The Kaiser, the Czar, and King George have all been at the front.

They were wildly cheered by the men in the frozen trenches.

After being heartened up with cheers each monarch repaired to a comfortable hotel where the provender was first-class and the sleeping apartments cosy and warm.

The men remained in the frozen trenches waiting a chance to send each other to the place where there is no winter—funny, isn't it?

After the war a few may return from the frozen trenches minus an arm or a leg and we shall see them selling matches or blacking boots in the streets.

Perhaps they may ask about the disposal of the Patriotic Funds, and may even expect a few bob out of the board.

It will be a vain hope. The history of such funds is discouraging for those with expectations.

Patriotic funds are not for Mugs, nor for the widows and children of Mugs.

The survivors of the famous Balaclava charge had expectations, but although a large sum of money was raised to provide for them some died in the workhouse, and others were thrown into pauper graves like common wage slaves.

After they were safely underground a large sum remained in the fund—the money which they had been cheated out of by the patriots who took charge of it.

The Bulli disaster fund went astray in the same way—the widows were cheated and their children starved by kind Christian gentlemen who took charge of their money.

And the Mugs who returned from the South African War had either to fight for their pay in the courts or go without.

The history of all such funds is decidedly discouraging, but the average Mug doesn't know history. He reads the daily papers and his fighting temperature goes up and up until he loses his head and enlists.

A correspondent wrote to the Sydney "Daily Telegraph" last week drawing the Minister of Defence's attention to the niggardly treatment of employees of the Government who had gone to fight for the Empire at 5s. a day. He seemed to think such treatment unusual, but it isn't.

Highly-paid Ministers, like Senator Pearce, always pay the minimum price for bullet-stoppers and lead-eaters. In this respect, as in many others, Labor Ministers are no different to Liberals.

In Britain, Cabinet Ministers pay themselves from forty to a hundred pounds a week. They pay volunteer soldiers—the pick of the workers—ten and sixpence a week.

The famous and wealthy Lord Derby, who is said to own a large part of a very rich city, besides large tracts of rich country land, has been struck with the meanness of the Liberal Government which pays a soldier's wife and children twelve and sixpence a week.

The noble Lord urges better treatment to induce the simple-minded to enlist. He wants a soldier's wife with three children to have fifteen and twopence a week, with three shillings added from her husband's princely screw of eighteenpence a day.

In a large-hearted way Lord Derby suggests that where there are three children there shall be an allowance of threepence each a day for the first two, and twopence a day for the third. Eightpence a day for three children whose father is fighting for "freedom and civilisation and humanity"!

The noble Lord is a Tory-Liberal; Senator Pearce is a Laborite, but they are one in their want of respect and sympathy for the men who keep and defend them. Both regard the worker as a Mug, and they treat him as such.

We are not blaming them altogether for this. The worker himself is more blameworthy. He regards himself as far beneath those who assume superiority over him, and refuses to be told that he is worthy of better treatment. He doesn't want to be organised or agitated—he doesn't want to know his true position.

The Hon. Andy Fisher, Laborite Prime Minister, answered a question the other day relative to unemployment, and said it was not the policy of the Labor Government to give employment unless such employment was profitable to the Commonwealth. Good old profit! Good old Laborism! It is a quaint view this of Andy's. But perhaps he thinks it more profitable to the Commonwealth (employers) to have a large army of unemployed.

Men and women of the Labor Party made great sacrifices to put Andy Fisher's Government into power, but their sacrifices were in vain. The Cook Government was indifferent to the interests of the workers and did nothing for them. The Fisher Government is indifferent and absolutely refuses to try to do anything for the jobless, stranded workers.

"Wanted a Leader. Apply to Parliamentary 'Liberal' Party."—A heading of an article in Queensland "Worker." The Labor Party, which the "Worker" supports, has a "leader" in the person of Andy Fisher, who walks backwards so his followers can't tell which way he is going.

Unemployment has caused a number of suicides within the past week or two. Some people will die sooner than fight for life and better conditions.

The N.S.W. police are rejoicing over the alleged diminution of crime since the war commenced. They seem to think that most of the criminals have gone to the war, and there may be something in that view. War is murder, pillage, and rapine—just the kind of thing to suit the most ardent criminal.

Replying to a question in the House of Representatives, Prime Minister Fisher said Australia would send as many troops to Europe as are wanted there. Andy's statesmanship appears to consist in getting rid of the country's useful workers and accumulating debt and deficits. When he got down to his "last shilling" the other day he borrowed to keep the military and naval machinery going. When he gets down to his "last man" he won't know what to do. Joe Cook must be laughing to see Andy sending his followers to the front, because if the latter kills off his followers at the present rate Joe is sure to have a majority of Libs at the next count of noses.

"It is anticipated that about the time the big Labor "World" will come out in Sydney a Westralian daily will be also ready for launching. That will complete the girdle of Labor daily journals embracing the chief cities of Australia."—Queensland "Worker." And the workers will find the Labor dailies models of the Liberal dailies. The only true working class daily will be a Socialist paper, and we'll never be happy till we get it.

Lloyd George, Chancellor of the British Exchequer, says that the first year of the war will cost Britain 450 millions. Over a million a day! George is very sad at the waste of money. The waste of life doesn't so much matter. There are plenty of slaves growing up to take the place of those who are killed.

Of course our "brave" allies are fighting for freedom and civilisation against Kaiserism and German tyranny and oppression. Every reader of the daily papers knows that, but we are unable to see where the press reports and explains how it is that Japan has jailed a number of Socialists and confiscated their printing outfits for translating and printing Socialist literature.

"I must protect the witness. A witness cannot come down and punch your head if you are rude to him." Queensland Chief Justice to Barrister Feez. He said it as if he believed that the barrister deserved it.

"There will be no poverty in the world in a hundred years from now." Thomas A. Edison. The great inventor must expect Socialism in our time.

"There will be some big experiments tried in governments within the next fifty years."—T. A. Edison. The Australian workers may even manage to get along without Joe Cook, Andy Fisher and the capitalist, also without fleets, armies, police, judges, jails and other feudal riff-raff.

Capitalism has foreign markets for surplus products and battlefields for surplus workers. It cannot do without these parts of its machinery and in relying upon them it is doomed to a general breakdown.

"At a certain stage of development, capitalist society brings forth the material agencies for its own destruction."—Marx, in 1862. It commits suicide, so to speak.

The way Labor Government puts it: "Rather than make the owners of wheat lands allow the farmers to grow wheat we will see Australia starve first."

Archbishop Wright, in the Sydney Anglican Diocesan Magazine for December, referring to the war, says: "It is a struggle in which we can only turn to the God of Battles to throw His sword into our scale." Poor old Jehovah, what a fix he must be in. Both sides are asking him to use his sword on the other fellow!

Capitalism puts a gun into the workers' hands as a substitute for brains. When the workers think they refuse to fight. Push the "International," it will make the workers think.

Why is there a war? Because when the master says "sool 'em" the workers don't know any better than to start killing each other.

The masters in England are doing their best to make the workers see their position. Not content with being robbers, tyrants and slave-drivers, they are now acting as recruiting officers for the army. At a word from the Government which is really a committee of themselves—they are forcing their men to enrol in the bullet-stopping contest. Everywhere a dastardly pressure is being brought to bear on unmarried men to compel them to go forth and slaughter or take the sack. The bosses seem to regard single men with special aversion and the reasons are obvious. The single man is not rearing a family of future wage-slaves. He is not and need not be so abject a slave as his married brother who has a wife and children to consider. He is therefore dangerous to the ruling class and must be got rid of. And what better way is there than to force him to go and commit suicide in the defence of the owners of the Empire?

The French are a wonderful people, and on the outbreak of war they rose to the occasion in Paris and wrecked every German Maggi Laitre place in one day. Then they commenced on their own shopkeepers, and wherever they found prices raised they licked the proprietor and looted the premises, often in the presence of gendarmes. Next day all the shopkeepers posted notices, "Prices not augmented."

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OMITTED.

The lucid and informative article in last week's International entitled "Our Ally" was written by our Russian Comrade, John Cray, of North Queensland. In the make-up our comrade's name was inadvertently omitted.

Not all the consequences of the present struggle are yet apparent. It may lead to an increase of armaments. In this case the peace which will follow will be only in the nature of truce. But from a purely economic point of view there is nothing to hinder its resulting in a Holy Alliance of imperialists. The longer the war lasts, the more it exhausts all participants, the nearer we shall approach the latter solution, no matter how improbable it may appear at present.—Kautsky.

An Appeal to Internationals To Stand Together.

The Sydney Wharf Laborers' Union held a mass meeting in the Trades Hall on Wednesday evening, December 2, to consider the advisability of discontinuing to work with those whom they—after the press—are pleased to regard as "enemy subjects."

After a lengthy discussion it was decided that members should refuse to work with any German, Austrian or Turk, either as laborer or foreman, and whether naturalised or unnaturalised. The resolution to take effect from Monday, December 7.

This decision of one of our largest unions is one more proof of the baneful influence of the daily press. It is also a demonstration of the necessity for united and strenuous action on the part of all internationals in the Commonwealth. This "poison of the press" is being poured into the receptive minds of hundreds of thousands daily, and unless counteracted will do incalculable harm to the cause of international working-class solidarity.

We have done what we could with our limited means to stay the growth of this suicidal national prejudice, but greater effort and more earnest propaganda amongst unionists is desirable. Every unionist should have this paper brought under his notice, because it is undoubtedly an antidote to such prejudice as has resulted in the action of the wharf laborers.

A strong minority in the Wharf Laborers' and other unions is with us in this fight, and we must work to aid it with the paper and by leaflets and speeches to the fullest extent possible.

To carry on this work money is needed for printing and distributing suitable literature; and we appeal to internationals and fair-minded men and women to provide the sinews of war for this purpose.

There are many intelligent class-conscious workers in all the great unions, but unless they are supported by those whose business it should be to give such support they must be defeated by the unintelligent, who are swayed by press virus and patriotic prejudice. Comrades, and you who stand for fair play and justice to all, it is up to you to help. Will you do it?

The Marxian Formula—C—M—C.

Most Socialists know the Marxian formula of capitalist production, C—M—C. The capitalist has a commodity to sell. He exchanges the labor value contained in the commodity for the labor value contained in money. When he gets the money he uses it to buy raw material and labor-power to produce new commodities.

If the capitalist cannot turn his commodity into money, he stops production. If he cannot sell his commodity he ceases to buy raw material and labor-power, and the wage worker from whom the capitalist buys labor-power is turned adrift to look for another job or remain unemployed until his late master is prepared to re-employ him.

The wage-worker is thus dependent upon the capitalist for employment. He cannot sell his labor-power unless there is a capitalist who wants to produce commodities which other capitalists want to buy with money.

This looks simple and commonplace, but it is the explanation of the present unemployment and hard times in Australia.

The capitalists have hired the workers to produce wool, silver, copper and other commodities for sale to those who were willing to pay money for them.

Suddenly the war came, and the buyers of these commodities ceased to buy. The capitalists promptly ceased to produce, and thousands of workers were sacked.

This wholesale cessation of production has enormously augmented the numbers of unemployed workers, and the capitalists being busy at war—capturing each other's markets and stealing each other's territory—all available money is being utilised for war purposes. There is little or none for the production of commodities not required for the war.

The capitalist class of the British Empire, however, want men to kill the Germans, and they are willing to pay the able-bodied wage-workers a low wage for undertaking this dangerous work.

The wage for this work being low, very few would undertake it, but for the fact that production having practically ceased there are no other jobs offering. And the capitalists by waving flags and writing and shouting about patriotism and defence of their country, hypnotise the workers into enlisting.

This is how matters stand. There are jobs open to the workers to fight the Germans; raise horses for the war; make guns and ammunition for the war; facilitate transport for the war; raise grain to feed the soldiers; manufacture clothing for the soldiers; and in other ways help to prosecute the war.

But the capitalists will do nothing to employ, feed, house and clothe those who are unfit for war, and those who refuse to enlist. Even so-called Labor Governments find money for battleships and drill halls, while they refuse to help the unemployed wage workers.

The wage worker under capitalism is the slave of his masters. He must obey them or starve. If they do not want him to work at one job they make him take another. The thousands of wage-slaves thrown out of work in Australia to-day demonstrate the truth of Marx's formula, C—M—C.

The capitalist class rule, and they compel the wage-slaves to take war jobs or starve. Whether the workers want such jobs or not necessity compels them to take them. They must work for wages to support themselves and their wives and families, and therefore they have no choice. They must either go to the international shambles in Europe, work cheaply to feed and clothe those who are there, or do nothing and starve.

In the Grip of the Pawnbroker.

The Australian Worker is angry with the Holman Government for reviving the negociations with the Norton Griffiths firm. But the Worker doesn't konw what a tight place the N. S. W. Labor Government is in. Millions are wanted for the construction of railways and other public works and the Government cannot get a cent in Europe. The money trust puts forward a scheme under which the firm of Norton Griffiths shall carry out the public works that the Labor Government has been constructing and the Worker blushes for shame that a Labor Government favors the scheme. The Worker wishes us to believe that "the Great State of N. S. W. with its magnificent assets and its energetic population" can obtain cash on better terms than "a gang of contractors, with nothing behind them but their opportunities for exploitation." But the fact is that the "great State of N. S. W." cannot do anything of the kind. It is in the grip of the pawnbrokers and they are about to tighten their tentacles. They are going to take charge of the "great State"—along with others—and use its little statesman in their own interest. The Holman-Griffiths Labor combination is just about played out, but to prolong their existence they are negociating with their masters the financiers. Their masters will dictate terms and the "great State" will be owned and governed in London. The Worker makes a mistake in assuming that the Norton Griffiths combine has nothing behind it. It has a power behind it that is stronger than the strongest government—the Money Trust. The Worker perhaps hasn't heard that the British Government has just spent £100,000,000, and is now spending another £250,000,000 subscribed by the financiers, or it wouldn't talk about the power of the "great State" of N. S. W.

Recruiting Slaves for the Big Landowners.

N.S.W. Labor Minister for Lands, Mr. Trefle, has announced that he will be glad to hear from any farmer who is anxious to secure land on the share-farming system, when he will give him the information he is seeking, and put him into communication with the owners of estates. The Minister in thus undertaking to recruit slaves for the big owners demonstrates exactly what the Labor Government stands for. The share-farmer is practically a slave to the owner of the land, who gradually and scientifically forces him down to the subsistence level. A Labor Government that was worth its salt would seize the present opportunity to free the farmer from his incubus, but the Holman Government of landlords and agents is not worth its salt.

Bebel's Remarkable Forecast.

In view of the war spirit displayed by the German socialists (says the London "Evening Standard" of September 30), it is interesting to recall the truly prophetic words of their late great leader, August Bebel, who, as far back as 1900, in a booklet entitled "The Permanent Army and the Militia," and constituting a resume of his speeches in the Reichstag during the discussion of of the war budget, predicted the present war and described its consequences to Germany in a manner that is astonishing for its true description of the events as they have come to pass..

"A war between two great Powers will, with mathematical precision, lead to a general European conflagration," declared Bebel.

What would happen to Germany should she find Great Britain among her opponents? Following is Bebel's answer:—

"The German fleet, no matter how large it may be, will be destroyed by the English fleet that is certain to be its superior in force, and Germany will lose all her colonies almost immediately after the declaration of hostilities.

"Should Japan join her forces with the enemies of Germany, and this would be inevitable if Germany fights England, then all the German Colonies in the Far East will be irretrievably lost, despite all the superhuman sacrifices brought in acquiring them.

"But the most fatal result of such a war would be the loss of the German merchant marine and of the world's markets, which will be captured by England.

"A war with France and Russia, and with England as their ally, would also mean the complete destruction of the power of Germany.

"Both France and Russia would be pleased at the prospect of Germany warring against England. In that case, their wish would come true, for France would regain Alsace and Lorraine, while Rassia would see realised her centuries-old dream of possessing the whole of Poland and several important ports at the mouths of the Nieman and Vistula.

"Victories in the war of the future will not come to German arms as easily as the newspapers and schoolrooms would lead us to believe. The superiority over the enemy the Germans possessed in 1870 is absolutely impossible nowadays.

"The number of soldiers and the armament are nearly equal in Germany and in France. The war of the future will resemble more a wrestling contest than a war, and first one combatant and then the other will appear to be victorious. It will be a blood-sucking process—saigner a blanc, in the words of Prince Bismarck.

But this is but one side of the medal. The other side is the economical situation of the people during the war.

"The war will stop commerce and industry. The war will stop the export trade of Germany, and under the present economic conditions, Germany, robbed of export, cannot exist.

As one of the results of this will be acute unemployment. Besides, the import of goods into Germany will cease, and Germany cannot exist without imports. The foodstuffs will rise greatly in price, and poverty and misery will reign throughout the land."

At the time this prophecy was made official Germany made Bebel the target of insults and jokes; but it would appear that the Cabinet-maker philosopher knew the true state of affairs much better than the heads of Prussian militarism.

A Woman's Letter.

"Oh, there's nothing half so sweet in life
As love's young dream."

So sang the poet, but that was long ago, before capitalism came to curse the earth, and blot all the sweetness out of life. Now love languishes and longs for a nice little cottage—but the rent—the rent is the landlord's cry, and he won't take a tear, and he won't take a sigh. No, but if he got a few bricks pelted at him, he might take to his heels and forget to call back. And who are these landlords and what is their claim to the title? Many of them have no right whatever; they are a lot of hungry land sharks, bum bailiffs, and other cattle. The real landlord hardly ever appears; in fact, in most cases he is a myth. A number of men out for plunder, form themselves into a syndicate of land agents, house agents, etc. Devil's agents would be a more correct term. Our Shylock Labor Government pretended to bring in a Fair Rents Bill, but it was only a farce, as all their other so-called democratic legislation is and has been. Now then, you Socialist women, what are you doing? Are you going to meet the landlord with a tear or a sigh? Now is your time. Your husbands and sons are being turned out of their employment, and told to go to the front, while you stay behind to meet the landlord. Our kind, paternal Labor (?) Government are going to stand by the "Empire" with the last man and the last shilling. I can hardly imagine a canny Scot like handy Andy parting with the siller, but men's lives—that's another matter. They are only fit to be juggled with. There are plenty of slaves in the world. It is quite proper to kill a few of them. The widows and orphans, of course, will have to be kept, but then our tory labor ladies require maids, don't you know. It would never do for them to soil their hands and what a nightmare it must be to them to think of the time when they washed the old man's pants! What a change has come o'er the spirit of their dream!

Now they must have "maids" to wait on them, and the widows of the men who have been murdered—to make a capitalist holiday—are to be brought here to be made slaves of. "'Tis a mad world, my masters." And the maddest part of the world seems to be here under the Southern Cross, and why? Simply because we allow fools to sit in high places. The ancients' chose the wisest men as rulers and law-makers. In the brave days of old they did things differently..

Then none were for a party.
  But all were for the State;
Then the rich man loved the poor,
  The poor man loved the great;
Then goods were fairly portioned,
  And lands were fairly sold;
And Romans were like brothers
  In the brave days of old."

Yes, in the brave days of old there was no portly parvenu, coming to your door, with an imperative impertinent rat-a-tat-tat, demanding the rent. And where is the rent to come from these days? Men are being turned adrift on the world, others are put upon half-time and whether they are in work or not they must pay war levies. Why? Australia is not at war. Handy Andy Fisher and Danny Man Hughes, and our own Willie Holman, to say nothing of land grubber Arthur Griffiths, are all very cute, but not half cute enough. Their sand-bagging and dust throwing in the eyes of the people is just about to come to an end, and heavy will be the reckoning when the people wake up. Then it might be well for those worthies to take a trip to the North Pole. They may find things a bit sultry up this way.

Does any sane person believe that the conscription crew here care a tinker's toe-nail about the "Hempire," or that the "Hempire" is in need of the help of the Australian baby conscripts? Does not everybody know that a German gunboat or any other gunboat could stand three miles outside Sydney Heads and blow Fisher's silly fleet and his baby army into Abraham's bosom in about three shakes of a donkey's tail? Then silly people may say "What is all the rumpus about?" Well, I will tell you if you promise not to repeat it. It is just bluff. Andy and his merry men are trying to gain the interest of various gangs of bandits in the Pacific. We hear wild and woolly yarns about our ships taking prisoners, and the so-called prisoners are being housed and fed at the expense of the Government and the people who are being turned adrift, are commanded to pay! pay! pay! Well, there is an end to everything, and out of evil cometh good. If we can induce the people to awake, arise, then the day of their freedom is at hand, and with a slight alteration we may sing the song of Miriam—

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The A.S.P.

Why It Must Grow.

By Luke Jones.

On the eve of what may prove to be one of the most important conferences in the history of the the A. S. P., it is well that we should consider the true historical position of the party. If we really understand that, the danger from sidetracking will be reduced to a minimum, and the ground that has been won can be fortified so that we cannot lose it in the future skirmishes with the enemy.

Let us briefly consider the Principles of the party. The objective is stated thus.

(1). The Social ownership with Democratic control of the means of production, distribution and exchange.

Here we see, clearly and scientifically stated, the thing we are aiming at. This statement admits of no equivocation. It cannot be misunderstood. Capitalism has socialised production whilst, paradoxically, it has retained individual ownership and control. The application of the formula of our objective (so to speak) to society will abolish this fundamental contradiction and plant society upon the concrete foundation of industrial democracy. Our objective, clearly and scientifically stated as it stands, leaves us not in doubt as to where we are going.

The statement of Principles (2), is equally plain.

It tersely sums up the cause of the present condition of society. It points the way of emancipation and, without tying us down to the feet of any particular economic organisation leaves us free to advocate and support any revolutionary industrial development of the working-class. This position is peculiarly the best in face of the manifold developements which are taking place in the ranks of organised labor.

Read next the "Guiding Rule" (3). This, qualified as it is by the next "As to Palliatives' (4), condensee the party's position in the political field so that none other than revolutionary tactics may be adopted. The subsequent sections 5, 6. and 7 clear the air of any misconceptions regarding our attitude to other parties etc.

No 8. "As to militarism" defines where we stand in these days of wholesale butchery. The present war has driven it home more forcibly than ever that the only attitude Socialists can adopt is absolute uncompromising anti-militarism. Once let us swerve from this and we will find ourselves embroiled in the delightful game of cutting throats for the benefit of the vampire class. Let those talk of "Citzen Armies" who will. Let others prate glibly about the right of nationalities to defend their existence by force of arms; and then ponder the fact that *every* "nation" engaged in the present "glorious conflict" claims to be fighting in *defence* only. If they are all fighting in defence it follows as a logical consequence that they are all equally fighting in offence. This demonstrates the absurdity of "armies of defence." Where, one might ask, does defence end and offence begin. In fact it is interesting to note in this connection that British military and naval strategy fixes the frontiers of Great Britain on the enemy's shore. Under this state of things the "purely" defence forces of Australia could be engaged on the Coast of China or America and still be operating "at home." Anti-militarism, then, is truly the most logical stand for Socialists.

Passing over 9, "As to Schools" which merely urges the formation of classes for young socialists we arrive at 10, "As to Historical Materialism," perhaps the most important section of all. This theorem, first laid down by Marx, is the most notable contribution to sociology of the last century. It is a complete synthesis of the history of mankind and together with the brilliant analysis of capitalistic society contained in his economic writing, form the bedrock basis of the revolutionary movement throughout the world. It offers the only scientific explanation of the developement of human society in every epoch. It explains the ethical, and ethnical (non-biological) variations in society; it unlocks the secrets of culture, jurisprudence and politics; it unites hitherto dis-connected and unexplanable phenomena into a homogenous whole with the economic factor standing out right down the ages as the driving force in society. From it is deduced the great principle of the Class Struggle, the beacon light of the working-class in every country.

In last (11), "As to Education" simply states the party position on what is, and will be, an increasingly important question for socialists. It is in fact a declaration of anti-clericalism, (which socialists the world over have been compelled to adopt) in no way connected with the advocacy of palliatives, as a friendly critic of the party writing in the I. S. some time ago tried to impute. Palliatives are strictly speaking economic in character. We talk about palliating poverty. Now poverty exists solely because the workers are robbed of a large portion of the produce of their labor. It follows therefore that before anything is entitled to the name "palliative" it must either "alleviate" or seem to "alleviate" the results of this economic robbery. Since the particular declaration in question is absolutely non-economic in intent and character the suggestion that it savours of palliatives falls to the ground as absurd and without foundation.

Recognising then, that the principles of the A. S. P. are subject and amenable to amendment as altered conditions dictate, we see in them, as they stand, a clear, concise and unequivocal crystallisation of socialist principle, purely revolutionary and scientific from beginning to end. A party based upon these principles cannot fail in its mission if it energetically translates them into action, imbuing them with life and vitality so that wherever they appear they will propagate and reproduce their kind. Once this normal condition of existence is fullfilled nothing can stop the growth of the organisation.

Now at the time of writing the A. S. P., is such a party; it fullfils the foregoing conditions more completely than any other organisation of its kind. I say this, with all due respect to other organisations; but the fact must be recognised that the A. S. P., is the only Socialist party in Australia that is doing any serious or considerable propaganda. Its membership and branches are increasing whilst its official organ the "International Socialist" is daily increasing its circulation which is already the largest by far of socialist organs. These are facts; and as such they are significant when considered from the standpoint of economic and political devleopement.

Let us take a cursory glance at things as they are. The Labor party has signally failed to even inititate part of its own utterly futile programme. There is not, at the present time, a piece of legislation on the statute book which tends in any way to assist labor to emancipate itself. Not that the Labor parties, Federal and State, have been backward in passing measures; indeed, when capital cries out it finds them listening, ears to the ground. The *Defence* Act and the various Arbitration, Wages Board etc , acts are examples of Labor legislation. These measures are one and all anti-labor in character; they operate solely in the interests of capital. Yet they are all the Labor parties have to base their claim to working-class adherance on. It could not be otherwise for the Labor party stands for the perpetuation of the institution of private property in the means of life. It is therefore a reactionary party. It has not even attempted seriously to enact any of its own paltry and specious "reforms" a fact that is making its own supporters amongst the working class smell a rat. It is only a question of time now for the debacle to set in. Once that happens the Joss will crumble to dust before the eyes of its worshippers.

It is because of this that the A. S. P. must grow. Disgust pervades the ranks of labor. The spirit of rancour is rising in its breast. Its Gods have kept not their covenants but have brought succour to the enemy. They have wrought confusion in the armies of the faitful and have betrayed them into vile slavery. They have let them wander in the wilderness, whilst the Philistines feasted and made merry. These be your Gods; O Labor ! Summon your Iconoclasts and bid them cast down the Idols that are amongst ye ! !

Comrades: The coming conference should mark a distinct epoch in the history of the party. Let us consider wisely and well the task before us. Let us keep our hands clean, and our shoulder to the wheel, and then we may safely rely upon the forces operating in society to do the rest. The future is with and for us. We have a good organisation full of earnest and enthusiastic members. We must increase our members for there are thousands of socialists not in touch with the party. The best way to do this is through the paper. If we concentrate upon increasing its circulation we cannot fail to increase our strength. The war has increased the cost of publishing but the paper will continue in spite of that. Having the largest circulation of any socialist organ it consequently has the largest influence upon the public. This fact means that we stand upon the solid ground of historical developement. If we prepare to take up the broken threads we will see before long an organisation second to none in point of militancy and relative number to any in the world. Success to the conference !

"Sound the loud timbrel,
O'er Sydney's dark sea;
The people have triumphed.
The people are free.
Sing, for the pride of the tyrant is over
His fleet and his conscipts—
All khaki and grey;
How vain was their boasting.
The people have spoken,
And Andy and Billy
Have both passed away!"

Down and out, and so be it with all shams, frauds and humbugs. To everlasting perdition with them! Amen.

EILEEN BAWN.

When you have finished with this paper, pass it on to a friend

Bonehead Heroes and Great Men.

By Jayem.

The capitalists' man butcher, responsible for the slaughter of thousands of wage slaves, is a hero, but the great thinkers, who have rescued millions from the tyranny and slavery of superstition and religion, are anathema to the ruling class.

One of Melbourne's big dailies had a slobbersome leader on the British "hero," Lord Roberts, and the writer said, in referring to his death, "With him there was no taking a fearful leap in the dark as with 'poor' Hobbes and Thos. Paine."

The leader writer is probably ignorant of the history of free thought and its great men, and merely repeats—like a cockatoo saying "Hullo, cocky"—the lies that still lives in Sunday-school stories and the history of capitalism as taught in State schools. Neither Hobbes nor Thos. Paine, on their death beds, "repented" of their free thought, notwithstanding Christian writers' assertions and the mendacity has been refuted a thousand times by rationalist scholars.

A lie has no legs. This particular one is well supported, however, by Christian perverters of the truth, and no doubt there is still ahead of it a long and dishonourable career. Socialists know that religion and faith are part of the equipment of capitalism to keep itself on top of the working class.

The church's parasites have a steady job in attending the dying, and after first scaring the ignorant wretches with the idea that death is a punishment for "sin," instead of a natural law against which all men-made gods are powerless, administers mental chloroform in the shape of prayers to the man God of unknown address to keep them out of a hell that exists only on this planet under the system of capitalism. The church hates free thought and its thinkers as idol-makers; nineteen hundred years ago opposed Christianity because the new superstition interfered with their trade.

Free thought in the 20th century is the deadly enemy of superstition and religion, those strong limbs of capitalism that helps to keep wage slaves under. Therefore it is quite natural for capitalist newspaper writers to repeat the Hobbes, Paine alleged awful atheistic death-bed yarn, and the totally untrue story that these saviours of their race died repenting the work, of their noble lives.

Thos. Paine is as well known to Rationalists and Socialists as Col. Ingersoll. Hobbes has been called the father of English materialism. The weight of his influence on English thought was great. He was the first prominent thinker, the first widely-read writer in England to assert the doctrine of Copernicus that the earth revolved around the sun. Hobbes was the predecessor by half a century of Isaac Newton, who gave to the semi-barbarous public of his day his discovery of the law of gravitation. Hobbes paved the way for Boyle, Hooke, Wren and Newton, great scientists and discoverers who lifted England from its barbarous isolation from the rest of the world and brought it into line with the European scientists and rationalists.

Thousands of boneheads know all about the "heroes" responsible for wholesale slaughter of men and misery of women and children. The man in the street can recite anecdotes of Napoleon, Wellington, Nelson, Roberts and Kitchener. Not one of these butchers can be compared as benefactors of the human race with Socrates, Aristotle, Spartacus, Copernicus, Newton, Hobbes, Paine, Marx and Engels.

Scholars in public schools are taught to "revere" the memory of wholesale human butchers. Of the really great men of the human race the working class schoolboy knows nothing. Neither do his parents. Is it any wonder that the William Mugs mistake the real heroes of the world and are ready to die for the superstition of patriotism and the head of capitalism in each capitalist Christian country, thinking themselves "heroes" like the little wowser, General Bobs!

THE REIGN OF TERROR.

There were two "Reigns of Terror," if we would but remember it and consider it; the one wrought murder in hot passion, the other in heartless cold blood; the one lasted mere two months; the other had lasted a thousand years: the one inflicted death upon ten thousand persons, the other upon a hundred millions, but our shudders are for the "horrors" of the minor terror, the momentary Terror, so to speak, whereas, what is the horror of swift death by the axe, compared with lifelong death from hunger cold, insult, cruelty and heartbreak ? What is swift death by lightning compared with death by slow fire at the stake ?

A city cemetery could contain the coffins filled by that Terror which we have all been so diligently taught to shiver at and mourn over ; but all France could hardly contain the coffins filled by that older and real Terror—that unspeakly bitter and awful Terror—which none of us has been taught to see in its vastness or pity as it deserves.

—MARK TWAIN.

Marx and Money.

(Continued.)

Readers will perhaps be thinking that the title of these articles should have been "Irvine and Money" instead of "Marx and Money," and certainly, there has been much more in them of Irvine than of Marx. But the purpose has been to show that our modern University Professor is teaching that which indicates that Marx is at last coming into his own.

Prof. Irvine does not mention the great Socialist economist. To do so would have raised Cain in conservative circles, but he knocks the bottom out of the capitalist banking system with the same idea that Marx propounded and supported by incontestible reasoning. And this fundamental idea is simply that a modern nation's financial credit and stability is not based upon the amount of gold it has in reserve but upon its marketable goods, i.e., upon its values which Marx showed were but crystalised socially necessary labor time.

To represent these marketable goods Prof. Irvine contends it is not necessary to have gold; that paper mostly represents them now; and that in future under a better and more scientific system gold may become unnecessary as a basis or medium of exchange.

Socialists will not shed many tears when this dethronement of the golden calf is brought about. Prof. Irvine says:

"Perhaps the strongest reason to be urged against the issue of paper money is purely psychological. Owing to the fact that the literature of finance teems with warnings against the intrusion of the State into monetary business the public are generally timid and suspicions about all forms of fiat money, even when properly safeguarded. These warnings have, no doubt, not always been disinterested: but whether sincere or tainted by vested interests, they have produced a powerful impression of insecurity."

But this "strongest reason" is no reason. The psychological effect of a widespread delusion fostered by vested interests is rather a reason why the warnings should be analysed and traced to their source. The Professor proceeds:

"And yet, in spite of the difficulties, we cannot escape this singular fact, that just as the banks guarantee (on sufficient evidence of solvency) the promises of business men and convert them into currency, now the State, in the last resort, is the guarantor of private bankers and the whole monetary system. In Great Britain to-day the banking system is meeting an unprecedented strain, not because it has an abnormally large gold reserve, but because it knows that the whole power and credit of the nation is behind it to enable it to finance the business of a vast empire. It is true that Great Britain is not issuing its own notes, but, to all intents and purposes, the Bank of England is a national institution, and it is valid to regard its war note issues as being tantamount to Government paper money."

The Professor here gives State Capitalism an encouraging pat on the back, for what has happened in England is that the gold reserve held by the Bank of England has proved inadequate in the present crisis, and the Government has had to assist it by pledging the productive power of the workers in support of the notes of the bank. The bankers have scored in the deal to the extent of perhaps nearly 200 millions.

This, of course, is the natural effect of State Capitalism. Under it private interests always score.

But the point to be emphasised with the aid of the Professor, is, that when the State guarantees the assets of the banks and becomes their sponsor, it admits that the gold basis of the currency and credit is a myth; that the real basis is the power of the people to pay taxes; and that this power is primarily founded upon marketable goods produced by the workers.

But the sources and means of producing and exchanging goods are in the hands of a few persons, and if these few are allowed to hold them out of use the supply of goods and their production must be restricted and the State be rendered bankrupt.

The State, to be logical and consistent, should declare that, whereas, goods being the basis of financial stability and credit, it is of paramount importance that their production should proceed without hindrance, therefore, all private monopolies are declared off, and the people are urged to use them for the benefit of all. This, of course, would be drastic. It would be suicidal for the owners—who really are the governors of the State—to make such a declaration, so they are not at all likely to do it.

But if the war lasts long enough Great Britain may be compelled to make some startling inroads into the doctrine of the divine rights of "proputy."

(Concluded on page 4.)

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MARX AND MONEY

(Continued from page 4.)

Let us apply this reasoning to Australian financial affairs. Here the Federal Government had three courses open to it after the outbreak of war. It could attempt to borrow in the open market at a high rate of interest; it could appeal to the British Government for assistance; or it could evolve some local scheme of increasing its assets—marketable goods.

To borrow in the open market was a forlorn hope. To increase production by forcing open the sources was too revolutionary for Laborites, so the only thing to do was to beg the Imperial authorities to assist.

With patriotic fervor and much jingoistic claptrap the Federal Labor Government provided naval and military assistance for the "Mother Country," and a few days afterwards it went to the "Mother Country" with cap in hand and tearful eyes for a loan to help to pay for the glittering show. That this could happen in a country which proudly boasts that it leads the world in average wealth production and democratic legislation doesn't say much for its collective wisdom as represented by a Labor Government.

The various State Treasurers and Premiers bankrupt and discredited were dreadfully alarmed at the outlook. They hurried to Melbourne to beg the equally bankrupt Labor Prime Minister to do something for God's sake. And when it became known that the Federal Labor Party had succeeded in obtaining a loan of 18 millions for war purposes an immense sigh of relief went up from the throats of the little rat-like Statesmen of the State Liberal and Labor Parties. With one voice they thanked God that they were saved for the time being.

But at what cost has this temporary respite been obtained? The States have had to admit that in an emergency they cannot finance without borrowed money. The Federal Labor Government has displayed its national capacity by adopting a down-and-out mendicant attitude to the British authorities.

Surely the rank and file of the Labor Party ought to blush with shame for its leaders.

A.S.P. News & Notes.

AUSTRALASIAN SOCIALIST PARTY.

Objective.—The social ownership with Democratic control of the means of Production, Distribution and Exchange.

Headquarters: 115 Goulburn St., Sydney.
General Secretary: J. W. ROCHE.

BRISBANE.

A good audience assembled on Sunday evening last to hear Comrade Welsby speak on the question of our attitude toward the present European struggle. Our comrade contended that we must so act as to ensure the survival of our movement and not only the survival, but the greatest degree of progress.

Dealing with the cause of the war he ridiculed the absurd statement that "Kaiser Bill" was at the root of the trouble. The mere thought that one man, in this age of colossal collective production is able to throw the whole world into a conflict of such a nature as the recent gigantic clash of arms is but to allow the mind to portray the absurd of all absurdities. Various other causes were analysed by the speaker, but the one he was inclined to accept was that this war was the result of capitalism's progression towards a world monopoly of finance. The conflict we were powerless to prevent, but we may determine the issue. The speaker formulated the question of whether it would make any difference if Great Britain or Germany was the victor, and then proceeded to demonstrate that under British rule our movement would have greater liberty to grow and develop. Prussian rule had absorbed the individual in a gigantic military machine. Germans were compelled to fight their fellow-workers. Englishmen were called to volunteer. Here then was a greater measure of liberty, which inclined the speaker toward desiring a victory for England. The result of a German victory would mean the perpetuation of rigid rule, and consequent further restrictions upon the actions of the individual. He was fully aware that British rule was not perfect, and that she would use economic pressure to force workers to volunteer, but Socialists had the cure for such practice. Finally, the speaker contended if Germany's rule would further our cause we should assist her to gain the victory, even though by so doing we should earn the punishment of death for acting traitoriously—that is in the common idea. If a triumphant Great Britain would aid us then it was up to Socialists to do all in their power to ensure her victory. If either issue will not effect us, then we must use every opportunity to induce the slaves not to volunteer, which action would bring us under military law and trial by court martial. The lecturer left us in doubt as to what our attitude should be, but he aroused considerable discussion, which in itself is justification for the speaker's method of treating his subject.

GORDON BROWN,
Box 10, South Brisbane.

COFFS HARBOUR.

We held a branch meeting on Friday last 27th., and arranged to send affiliation fees to the Administrative Council without delay. Our membership is gradually increasing, two more Comrades joined the branch and a few more will be following their footsteps in the near future. Comrade Rudolph held a meeting at Brambee Creek to-day, and addressed an interested audience on International Capitalism and how to fight it, clearly defining that revolutionary Socialism is the only method to fight the same. After the meeting our small stock of papers were all disposed of We decided to hold our branch meetings on Sunday afternoons Trusting we will be able to keep the Red Flag flying here.

yours for the revolution,
A. Currie, Sec.

SYDNEY BRANCH.

Comrades like A. Rees and Jack Kilburn make one's heart glad. The former who has just arrived, got to work immediately with the consequence that much good work was done. On Sunday at the Domain and again in the evening at Park and Market-Sts., Comrade Kilburn got in some good propaganda.

Mr. Huie of the "Land Values League" treated us to a discourse on "Single Tax" on Sunday night. Mr. Huie endeavoured to demonstrate that it is but necessary to relieve the landlord of his economic power by the application of the Single Tax and everything would be right.

The Capitalist according to the lecturer was just as much a puppet in the hands of the Landlord as the laborer or wage-worker. In fact "Interest" was but another form of wages. To rid the country of "Interest" was destroying Capital and taking society back to barbarism: The Capitalist in manipulating "Capital"—the natural results of labor's activity—does a useful social service. The landlord only functions in levying toll upon the fruitful energies of society.

The usual Socialist criticism was indulged in, which endeavoured to demonstrate that accumulated wealth in the shape of Capital was just as socially necessary to modern wealth production as the Land. It should therefore be socially owned. To deal with the landlord alone is but to play with the question seeing that the lost economic and political power of the landlord would but be transferred to the owner of Capital, to be used by him to keep the laborer in subjection. Social ownership of Land and Capital was absolutely necessary.

Next Sunday evening Comrade Horton will lecture on "General Economic Problems."

Mr. Bradden has decided to give a lecture on the "Note Issue" a date has yet to be fixed.

DON'T forget our usual Friday night Social. ROLL UP.

J. Q., Sec.

MISS WILLIAMS DEFENCE FUND.

Recieved. A. L. Roberts 10s., Dalsgaart 1s 6d., J. Dwyer 1s., W. H. Hope 2s.

Luke Jones,
Hon. Treasurer.

LUKE JONES BENEFIT.

In connection with the above the Third Prize is still unclaimed. The Prize Winners were:

1st. G. Pope, Pennant Hills. Ticket No. 153.

2nd. George Young, 29 Burfitt-St., Leichhardt, Ticket No. 459.

3rd. A. Franks, 240 Crown-St., Darlinghurst, Ticket No. 326.

TO OUR READERS.

In consequence of the scarcity of paper and cash we may reluctantly be compelled to cease supplying many small agents with the "International." Some of these agents owe us various amounts and may never pay, and the loss in paper, labor and postage is likely to prove considerable unless we revise our lists and cease to supply defaulters. If then, you find that in future you cannot obtain the paper from an agent in your district you will know what has happened. In that case, you can have the paper posted from this office post free for 1s. per quarter, or 4s. per year in advance.

Edward Searle, a farmer, writes:—

"Please find yearly subscription enclosed. You are doing well. May you long continue is my sincere wish. The War Trust is without doubt having the time of its life. Things here are just about at a standstill—the timber trade, sleeper getting, etc., is at zero. The war party, however, are going strong rolling up the foolish boneheads.

"Eungai Creek."

A comrade who called at the office for a book, told how he indoctrinated the foreman on the job with Socialist ideas. The foreman asked if our comrade had anything he could lend him to read during the luncheon hour. He promptly lent him the "International," which so shocked him that he cursed the editor and wondered why he hadn't been arrested as soon as he issued that number. The following week he got another issue, and it got him. The next week he was anxious to see it, and, of course, it was soon produced. He never looked up from it for the next hour, and when he returned the paper there was a new light in his eyes.

A somewhat similar story was told by a sick comrade. He had been reading the "International" in bed until his strength failed and he put it down. The trained nurse came in and picking the paper up read the title and put it down. After she finished performing some little duty, she again picked it up and commenced reading the Passing Show. The patient watched her with wistful eyes, but she became oblivious to surroundings. He coughed, but she did not notice it. He coughed louder at intervals, but the nurse didn't seem to hear him. This was unusual in her. Presently she smiled and said approvingly, "that's real good." Our comrade was so pleased that from that time onward he rapidly improved. There's a good deal in a Socialist paper when it cheers and brightens the sick room.

The receipt of a copy of this paper is an invitation to become a subscriber.

Books and Pamphlets on Sale.

Title.	s.	d.
The Positive Outcome of Philosophy, also in same volume Letters on Logic and the Nature of Human Brain Work (Dietzgen)	4s.	
Landmarks of Scientific Socialism (Anti-Duehring). Contains the most important portions of the larger work from which Socialism, Utopian, and Scientific was taken (Engels)	4s	
The Physical Basis of Mind and Morals. Shows the origin of mind and the relation of economics to morals (Fitch)	4s.	
Essays on the Materialistic Conception of History (Labriola)	4s.	
Socialism and Philosophy. In the form of familiar letters (Labriola)	4s.	
An Introduction to Sociology. A new and useful work for beginners, tracing the development of this new science, with estimates of the work of Comte, Spencer, Ward, Small, and other Sociologists (Lewis)	4s.	
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Marxian Economics, a popular introduction to the study of Marx (Untermann)	4s	
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Woman and Socialism, the classic work on this subject, revised, enlarged, and newly translated (Bebel)	6s.	
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Introduction to Socialism. Excellent for beginners, 64 pages (Richardson)	3d	
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A paper for grown-up men and women who are free from national and racial prejudices.

The "International Socialist" compels you to think and enables you to make others think.

Try it on your friends for one quarter.

When war broke out, 153,000 workmen were on strike in St. Petersburg, Russia, and 200 people, including nearly all Socialist journalists, were under arrest. "Holy Russia."

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Newtown Branch.—Rooms 41 Enmore-Rd., Newtown. Propaganda meetings: Friday evenings, Johnstone-St., Leichhardt. Saturday and Sunday evenings, Newtown Bridge.

Ray Everitt, Secretary.

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